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Volume 12 SUMMER 1962 Number 2

# THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS
A Publication of The Nature Conservancy

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Volume 12, Number 2 Summer 1962

O. F. Barnett, Editor

## CONTENTS

The Forest of Nisine Marks--Park Project . . . . . 3

If You Value Unspoiled Nature, You Had Better Speak Out NOW! . . 6

Annual Meeting - The Nature Conservancy . . . . . 7

The E. W. and Mary Edna Cleary Reserve . . . . . 8

Fox Creek Watershed . . . . . 9

St. Hilary's Wildflower Garden . . . . . 12

**SUMMER 1962: A bit of woodland, a stretch of water, green grass and wild creatures . . . all await to refresh men's bodies and rekindle their souls. (Cover photo--U.S. Forest Service)**

The Editor solicits the gift of articles, notes, photographs, and sketches on the various aspects of The Nature Conservancy. If possible, articles should be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of the paper. Photographs or negatives should have necessary data attached. All photographs, negatives and articles will be returned if desired.

## THE FOREST OF NISINE MARKS-- PARK PROJECT

Because a 14-year-old Danish girl came to California in 1873 with an innate love of nature, the Golden State will soon have a major addition to its chain of parks. The ninety years between the arrival of the girl named Nisine and the soon-to-be-realized dedication of the 9,750-acre "Forest of Nisine Marks" have witnessed a familiar pattern of land use and abuse. But in this mountainous part of southern Santa Cruz County about two hours drive from San Francisco, thanks to Nisine's three living children and the love of unspoiled land she gave them, the pattern has been broken. For Herman, Andrew, and Agnes Marks, now all around the 80-year point in their pioneering life on Monterey Bay, have refused to sell the land their mother cherished to developers for sums ranging upwards to four million dollars. Instead, they have offered it to the State and people of California, through The Nature Conservancy, for just $410,000, which is principally to cover certain outstanding obligations on the land itself. (The Marks family's generous spirit is further exemplified by their outright gift, not long ago, of 120 acres for an addition to the celebrated Point Lobos State Park which has been called one of the world's most beautiful meetings of land and water. The family had been offered $300,000 for this property).

Much California history is woven into the story of the Marks' Santa Cruz County tract, which includes the Aptos Forest, far-flung across the ridges north of Aptos and Soquel, east of the old San Jose Road. In 1769 the Portola expedition camped in this vicinity--the year before Monterey was founded. Father Juan Crespi's diary mentions unfamiliar trees that dominated a magnificent flora new to the world; we recognize these as the redwoods, Douglas firs, oaks, madronos, California laurel, and others so characteristic of the Coast Ranges in these latitudes. Parts of the Aptos Forest were logged in the following century, after the grant of the old Soquel Rancho in 1844 to Martina Castro. But by the time Nisine Marks' children had begun to acquire parcels of the Rancho's rugged, stream-cut uplands, the forest had sprung back in all its virginal beauty, and this their mother had known.

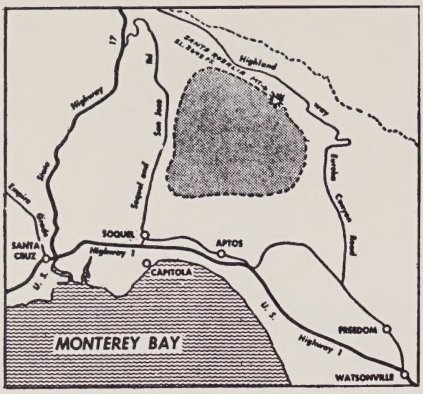
She had married a teacher, Benjamin Marks. In 1893 he died and she was left not only with their young children but with heavy indebtedness on their Monterey ranch property. She lived until 1956. In her 97th and last year, she could look back to those hard struggling times when she and her children were building security and ultimate substantial success on their start with a few chickens. But her most deeply satisfying recollections must have been those of the long walks in the woods and hills which were the recreation she and the children shared, and of their growth in appreciation of nature. The land

(NISINE MARKS -- Memorial for her.)

had demanded much of them in backbreaking toil, but along with some material wealth it gave back to them the richer rewards of being in tune with trees and wild things and clear running water and sparkling skies.

With the help of an astute Salinas realtor, J. Don Thompson, Herman, Andrew, and their sister Agnes Marks began during their mother's closing years to make real their dream of "The Forest of Nisine Marks" which would be a wilderness park for all to enjoy. At the same time, the California Division of Beaches and Parks was roughing in the same area on its master plan for ultimate State acquisition. Dream and plan were in essential harmony. As might be expected, however, it would take much time and the thought and effort of many people to put the new park on the California map. The Marks family wealth was moderate. The Aptos and Hinckley and Timothy Hopkins and smaller parcels could not be consolidated into one ownership, for dedication to one idealistic purpose, without resort to mortgage financing. Their other land and business enterprises were not enough to carry the burden of a magnificent free gift to the State, in accord with the ideal. They could, and did, hold on and refuse to sell at fantastic prices offered by the land-hungry developers, while their own offer to the Division of Beaches and Parks had to wait on the availability of State funds. But added to the threat of eventual foreclosure was another, one of even graver import to the park dream. If one of the Marks trio should die, the survivors would face an inheritance and estate contingency which could wreck the whole plan.

This was the situation when the Western Regional Office of The Nature Conservancy came into the picture, through the Division and Conservation Associates on the one hand, and through the Marks' friend, Mr. John R. McDaniel of Carmel, on the other. As chairman of The Nature Conservancy Monterey Bay Chapter, John McDaniel knew that the Conservancy was primarily concerned with natural areas for their



(SHADED AREA -- The Forest of Nisine Marks)

scientific value. He knew also, however, that there was precedent in at least two other states, New York and Virginia, for The Nature Conservancy cooperation with state park departments in the acquisition of park lands. Discussions with California officials--Director Charles DeTurk and Deputy Director John R. Knight of the Parks and Recreation Department, Edward Dolder, Chief of the Division of Beaches and Parks, Robert Hatch, Harry Dean, Charles Mehlert, and others concerned with land acquisition, regional management, and planning, brought out the State's commitment to the ideal, here, that nearly three-fourths of the Aptos Forest land should remain wilderness, with areas at both ends totaling some 2,500 acres to be given to overnight camping and day use. These two areas would be connected by foot and horse trails only (existing primitive roads will provide access for firefighting equipment).

The Marks family dream is now well on the way to realization. With a purchase option and Deeds of Trust signed by Herman, Andrew, and Agnes Marks, the Western Regional Office of The Nature Conservancy is now negotiating a half million-dollar loan from the Head Office of the Wells Fargo Bank in San Francisco, through the good offices of The Nature Conservancy Western Region legal counsel, Mr. H. P. Livermore of the San Francisco firm, Chickering & Gregory. Six public-spirited Californians have agreed to sign the Conservancy's note for this unprecedented loan: Mr. William M. Roth, Mr. Walter A. Starr, Mr. Osgood Hooker, Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Leonard, and Mr. H. P. Livermore.

When the Forest of Nisine Marks has been dedicated as a California State Park, it will owe its existence to an abundant Nature; to a devoted, idealistic, and generous family; to a conscientious realtor; to earnest and farseeing public officials working in the public interest and trust; to a small but effective Chapter of The Nature Conservancy; to the high-minded guarantors of a venturesome financial undertaking--to a team, in short, which set out to win a portion of our natural heritage away from the engulfing tide of "development."

While keeping its sights on the primary goal of preserving natural areas for their long-range value to humanity through scientific study, The Nature Conservancy has in securing this fine and large tract of land for immediate public use demonstrated its effectiveness as a private organization serving the pressing open-space needs of our own time. We recognize this as an equally essential role for The Nature Conservancy. D.G.K.

## GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN WILDFLOWERS

Text by Dr. Aaron J. Sharp, former governor of The Nature Conservancy and Carlos C. Campbell. The University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville, 1962. 5-1/2 x 8 in., 40 pp. Illustrated in color by Hershal L. Macon and Dr. William F. Hutson. Indexed. $1.00.

A fine little book with lively colored photographs accompanying the text of short paragraphs describing the appearance of each of 55 plants, where they may be seen and when and any folklore with which they may be associated.

## FIRST WORLD CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL PARKS

The First World Conference on National Parks was held in Seattle, Washington on July 1-7. Approximately four hundred were in attendance with delegates from 72 foreign countries. Mr. George L. Collins, a member of the Board of Governors of the Conservancy was Secretary General. The conference was under the sponsorship of the I.U.C.N.

All papers were presented in English, French or Spanish with simultaneous interpretations in the other two languages.

Where national parks of the United States have been brought under heavy use for "public enjoyment" many countries consider their national parks as "Strict Nature Reserves."

Mr. Paul Brooks, in a paper on "The Enjoyment of Wilderness" suggested that suitable scenic areas away from our parks should be set aside and used for this "public enjoyment."

One could not help but be deeply impressed by the sincerity and dedication of the representatives of the new African countries. They expressed concern for their preserves and in many cases are setting an example that much of the rest of the world might well follow.

In some countries it was felt that their parks were a great cultural force since they brought people of other lands but with a common interest together.

It was suggested that an international inventory of habitats be set up and that samples of each should be retained somewhere as "Strict Nature Reserves" where man would be almost excluded in the interest of retaining habitat samples for the second and later centuries beyond our time. W.S.B.

## CONSERVANCY BOARD MEMBER SHANKLIN NAMED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR BUREAU OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

John F. Shanklin, a member of the Board of Governors of The Nature Conservancy since August of 1961 and Interior Department employee since 1933 was named assistant director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation by Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall on June 15. The Bureau, recently established to coordinate Federal outdoor recreation planning, as well as an extensive program of assistance to State, local and private organizations in planning for recreation. Mr. Shanklin will be responsible for the organization's Division of Federal programs, its Division of Research and its Division of Education and Interpretation.

An authority on forest management and conservation, Mr. Shanklin prepared a study of multiple uses of land and water at the request of the Outdoor Recreation Review Commission, which recommended the establishment of the Bureau.

Mr. Shanklin's efforts have been twice recognized by awards from the Boy Scouts of America, an organization in which he has been active for more than 18 years. In addition, he received the National Civil Service League's Merit Citation in 1957 and the Department of Interior's Distinguished Service Award and Gold Medal in 1961.

The Nature Conservancy gratefully acknowledges the generous gifts to General Operations received in response to the May 8 solicitation of its membership. The money is indeed welcome, but even more so your association with the purpose for which it will be used.

## NATURE PROTECTION SYMPOSIUM IN AUSTRALIA

The Nature Conservancy has received through the courtesy of R. Schodde, botanist of Canberra, Australia, copies of the papers presented at a Symposium on Nature Conservation, convened by the South Australian Ornithological Association on April 6, 1962, at the University of Adelaide. As Dr. F. Raymond Fosberg, a member of the Board of Governors of The Nature Conservancy has pointed out, a number of the papers presented at that time have world-wide relevance. Among the papers presented were: "Man's Impact on the Land" by W. B. Hitchcock, "How Nature is Conserved" by C. T. James and R. Schodde, "The Status of Nature Conservation in South Australia" by R. M. Gibbs, and "Critical Aspects of Nature Conservation in New Guinea" by R. Schodde.

We must heartily concur with Dr. Fosberg's concluding remarks: "It is heartening to see that an interest in saving some of the fascinating world that Captain Cook and his naturalists found there is making itself heard in Australia. It is hoped that we may exchange ideas and benefit from each other's experience. The world of the future may be more livable as a result."

## BRITAIN'S NATURE CONSERVANCY

It is indeed encouraging to learn of the progress of England's Nature Conservancy in the thirteen years since its founding. Especially when we are informed by way of such an attractive pamphlet. The location of the Nature Reserves are pinpointed on two maps, while graphs and photographs are used liberally.

Founded by Royal Charter on March 23, 1949, The Nature Conservancy was created "to provide scientific advice on the conservation and control of the natural flora and fauna of Great Britain; to establish, maintain and manage Nature Reserves in Great Britain, including the maintenance of physical features of scientific interest; and to organize and develop the research and scientific service related thereto."

The Conservancy's efforts have not always met with immediate success. Just as for its namesake in America, financial problems foremost, but others as well, have hampered the Conservancy's progress. But those aligned with the following beliefs are determined to press on. "Our land and all that lives on or in it is the nation's basic resource. No part of the inheritance which we must pass on to our children is more vital to their health and happiness. None is in more danger of being passed on to them badly damaged. Only the fullest understanding of its nature and its needs can enable us all to look after it wisely for the future. That is what conservation means."

## "IF YOU VALUE UNSPOILED NATURE YOU HAD BETTER SPEAK OUT NOW!"

By Theodore M. Edison

I was fortunate enough to have been able to visit many wild places, from the everglades of Florida to the mountains of Alaska, when those places were really wild, and it saddens me to think that within the past few years a substantial number of the most beautiful and interesting places that I saw have been developed and "improved" to such an extent that no one from future generations will be able to get the same very deep and lasting impressions that I gained there from seeing both the peaceful and "violent" grandeur of nature "as God made it." If only a few wild places were involved, the preservation problem would not be so urgent, but "progress" has become so world wide and rapid that even the remotest regions are threatened.

There seems to be an almost universal tendency to measure the value of a wild area in terms of the number of people who visit it each year, without taking into account the quality of the experience each visitor obtains, and without making any allowance for the values that do not depend on the presence of any visitors whatsoever. A lonely marsh may serve as a breeding ground for birds that move to other places and give recurring pleasure to countless people who may not even know that the marsh exists; and that same marsh may form an overflow basin that can place a natural check on a flooding river that would otherwise wreak costly havoc in populated areas farther down stream. The marsh may also have great economic value as a place where water sinks into the ground to rise again in distant springs or wells, or as a place where nature maintains many of the marvelous and as yet little understood "mechanisms" and balances it has developed through millions of years of evolution. Vegetation plays a vital role in cleansing and renewing the very air we breathe, and when too many "green belts" give way to factories, housing, and crowded highways, residents come into more and more unpleasant contact with irritating (and sometimes killing) smog.

A great many people are beginning to realize that population pressures are tending to produce universal regimentation that our lives will become poorer instead of richer unless we take immediate steps to preserve "variety." I contend that strange and beautiful things and biotic communities all over the world have enormous value to people who may never see them personally, and I feel that we have reached the stage where we can no longer ignore the possible destruction of those values in our quest for local benefits. Perhaps more people could make direct use of the Taj Mahal if it were converted into a drive-in theatre, but what a loss that conversion would be to the world! When no trip can be taken that does not end in just another jumble of neon signs and Joes' Taverns, what incentive will there be to travel? Our zoning and condemnation laws demonstrate acceptance of the idea that certain sacrifices should be made for the sake of general welfare, and I earnestly hope that this concept will be reviewed and placed on a broader base before some of the most irreplaceable items in our heritage are damaged beyond repair.

Turning now to ocean beaches, I think that there are many thousands of people who would like to see substantial parts of those areas kept at least somewhat inaccessible. Although such people may not visit a "remote" beach often enough to make a very big collective showing, each one of them is likely to count each trip there as rewarding and memorable expedition, rather than just another outing--the "reward" in each case being dependent to some extent upon the degree of understanding of the area's unusual natural features. When highways are extended to such places, all feeling of solitude is almost sure to be destroyed, and the unique features of the area can soon be lost forever. Why does every bit of beach have to be developed and made so accessible that a trip to it degenerates into a mere alternative to going to the movies?

For those who merely want to sun and bathe and watch the passing crowd, why not improve facilities in already built up areas closer to large cities?

Natural ocean beaches come and go, and I understand that varying parts of some beaches may change from a 200-foot width to almost zero (or vice versa) as the result of a single storm. When boardwalks and other costly structures are built along the beaches, and the dunes are stripped of their natural protective vegetation, potential disaster areas are created. Sooner or later, storms can be expected to do enough damage to generate a demand for the control of beach erosion, and then the taxpayers may be called upon to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on unsightly jetties to protect the very structures that many of them vehemently oppose. Furthermore, the building of such jetties may affect ocean currents enough to necessitate the spending of additional funds on beach control in neighboring communities. Would it not be best to keep man's developments simple, and accept what nature has to offer?

## WILDCAT MOUNTAIN AREA SCIENTIFIC STUDY

An inventory of the plants and animals of Wildcat Mountain Preserve, Fauquier County, Virginia, will be compiled by two summer employees of The Nature Conservancy. Dr. F. Raymond Fosberg and Mrs. Ord Alexander of The Nature Conservancy and the Preserve's Project Committee were instrumental in promoting this valuable project. The area not only contains representatives of the trees most common to the Central Appalachians, but contains deer, wild turkeys, grouse and some of the larger predators.

## NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. Carrie M. Adams

Mr. B. P. Bole, Jr.

Mrs. Leonard C. Brecher

Mrs. Anna R. Butler

Mr. Donald D. Dodge

Mr. Frederick V. Geier

Mr. Hugh R. Goodrich

Mr. A. Atwater Kent, Jr.

Mr. David Lee Turner

## NEW NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES ESTABLISHED

Within the month of June a 2,686-acre Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge was established south of Savannah, Georgia, due to a transfer of land from the Federal Aviation Agency to the Interior Department. Also, the establishment of three more refuges, totaling 37,442 acres was authorized and plans to increase the size of five existing refuges by 8,977 acres approved.

Administered by the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, the Harris Neck Refuge, together with the Harris Island, Blackbeard and Savannah areas, will provide the sole sanctuary for Canada geese between the Santee refuge in South Carolina and St. Marks refuge in Florida.

Authorized by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission were the Alamosa Refuge in southern Colorado, the Davis Island area in Mississippi and the Eastern Neck Refuge in Maryland. These acquisitions will be financed by funds received from the sale of Federal duck stamps or from a loan which has been authorized by Congress and which will be repaid by money received from the sale of duck stamps.

The areas which the Commission seeks to enlarge are Bombay Hook in Delaware, the Laguna Atascosa, Texas, the Monte Vista, Colorado, Rice Lake, Minnesota and Noxubee, Mississippi.

The members of the Commission are: Secretary of the Interior, Stewart L. Udall, chairman; Secretary of Agriculture, Orville L. Freeman; Secretary of Commerce, Luther H. Hodges; Senator Roman L. Hruska of Nebraska; Senator Lee Metcalf of Montana; Representative Frank L. Karstan of Missouri and Representative Leon H. Gavin of Pennsylvania.

## ANNUAL MEETING THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

September 22, 1962
Wheeling, West Virginia

The first annual meeting of The Nature Conservancy as a separate organization will be held at Hotel McLure at Wheeling, West Virginia, on Saturday, September 22nd. Field trips are planned for both the Friday afternoon preceding and for Sunday, September 23rd. This will make it possible for those interested to make a full weekend of conservation work and study.

An official bulletin will be printed and sent to all members early in August, as required under the by-laws. The background for this radical departure is briefly as follows:

For several years the annual meeting has been held in conjunction with the convention of the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS). Conservancy members other than those directly concerned with this specialized convention found it difficult to attend and even those who were there on that conference found many conflicts between the meetings of the Conservancy and their other interests. It did not lend itself to a reflection of the wide range of conservation interests that now make up the membership.

Wheeling, West Virginia, was selected because of its central location for a very large segment of the total membership of our organization. Since the Dysart Woods project of the Ohio Chapter is one of current focus, it seemed that a large center near enough to this project to permit visitation had its advantages.

Those wishing to arrive early Friday afternoon will be able to visit Oglebay Park and Institute. There will be an evening program of slides showing projects, and there will also be a discussion of project developments. Saturday morning will be taken up with an address and discussion by groups centered around chapter and project interests. It is hoped that further discussion groups may be developed between now and the time the program is printed. Following a luncheon, the annual business meeting will be held at Hotel McLure. This important session will include the election of officers and new members of the Board of Governors. There are some changes in the by-laws also to be considered. The afternoon will be concluded with a symposium on "Frontiers in Land Preservation." Saturday evening will be a banquet and a program of entertainment.

Sunday morning the new Board of Governors will hold its organization meeting, complete such business as may be before it, and visit Dysart Woods. Arrangements are also being made for any others wishing to see this magnificent stand of virgin hardwoods to have an opportunity to spend as much time there as desired. W.S.B.

## THE E. W. AND MARY EDNA CLEARY RESERVE, NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Unique in the Western Region at present is a 400-acre tract in the rugged inner Coast Range of Central California. It is alone in having come into The Nature Conservancy as a College Study area already in being, although not yet formally organized.

For more than forty years, the owners of this natural area, Dr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Cleary of Burlingame, California, have kept it in its largely wild state. Eighty acres of it had been farmed in a rudimentary way. With none of it even nearly flat, a few acres had been planted to orchard--olive trees and several fruits such as pears, apples and apricots. There were a few small buildings and some livestock. Most of the rest was too steep, rocky, wooded and brush covered for agricultural uses. Water was--and is--plentiful, with springs, streams, and a well in the developed area.

Dr. Cleary, a physician and surgeon, while coming frequently over the years with his family, and contemplating various potential uses of his land for its inspirational and cultural values centered on the needs of individual people, especially young people, has unfailingly cherished the wilderness aspect, permitting no more than the minimum of access road, trails, and other amenities beyond a comfortable dwelling.

A very few years ago, a small group of college people, friends and associates of Dr. Cleary's niece, Mrs. Esther Marhenke of the University of California (Berkeley) Zoology Department, began coming as guests, conducting their wildlife studies, and in return giving some good hard work to the access road and other maintenance tasks.

Out of this association the idea grew in the minds and hearts of the Clearys that here might lie the solution to the property's future. In the hands of a devoted group, it could become a permanent college natural area for study.

So it was that the group, headed by Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Isaac, and Mr. George Hersh of the University, and Dr. William Maher of San Francisco State College, began to organize as the Biological Field Studies Association. They approached Mrs. Richard M. (Doris) Leonard, member of The Nature Conservancy Western Administrative Board and a friend of Mrs. Marhenke, to learn whether The Nature Conservancy might be interested. A number of conferences with the Board followed, and the College Study area plan took shape. Matters have now reached the purchase stage. An agreement is being worked out with the Clearys, the price of $25,000 (about 10% of the Reserve's probable market value in its region) payable at $2,500 per year, without interest. Since Dr. Cleary is retired from practice, this simply is a question of minimum need. The Clearys are deserving of commendation for their generous spirit of dedication and concern for the future of a magnificent natural area. Most significant is their desire to have it contribute something to the cultural enrichment and spiritual well-being of people--especially young people.

While officially recognized by The Nature Conservancy as the Project Committee, with membership in the Northern California Chapter, the BFSA will be in full charge of this project and its development, as well as its financing. They are personally contributing and raising the purchase money. They are enlisting the interest of Bay Area and Central California College departments, looking ahead to a full College Study use program.

An area of rich ecological associations, the Cleary Reserve is bound to become an increasingly important research and educational facility. It is also a place where people have a wonderful time working together. D.G.K.

## ALMA PETERSON AZALEA MEMORIAL DEDICATED IN DOUGLAS COUNTY, MISSOURI

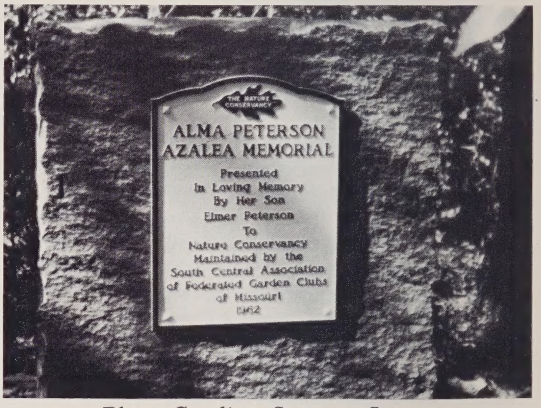



Photo Credit - Spencer Jones

In May, a 45-minute ceremony, attended by members of The Missouri Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and other state and local visitors, marked the establishment of the Alma Peterson Azalea Memorial in the Missouri Ozarks. Elmer Peterson, having deeded 4 acres of land to the Conservancy in memory of his mother, listened, along with 150 others to the Mother's Day dedication ceremony, including the major address by C. E. Boulson, President of the Missouri Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Mr. Peterson's effort to preserve the wild azalea on this tract which for some time has been disappearing from the area has been augmented by the Douglas County Chamber of Commerce, the South Central Association of Federated Garden Clubs, and the Missouri Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

The Ava Garden Club, responsible for the general management of the Memorial, was represented by its president, Mrs. Esther Leighnor who in part said, "We the Ava Federated Garden Club, thank Mr. Boulson, for this honor and confidence placed in us as custodians...and we shall dedicate our efforts to the preservation of this hallowed shrine of Nature."

## FOX CREEK WATERSHED

When The Nature Conservancy signed the purchase agreement with Heath and Marjorie Angelo for the preservation of their 2,915-acre tract in California the heavy stand of Douglas fir and redwood of the Elder Creek watershed was secured. This included a magnificent stand along the South fork of the Eel River above the junction with Elder Creek and extends for nearly a mile along the private roadway at the end of Wilderness Road from Branscomb.

When steps were taken by the Bureau of Land Management to withdraw from sale or use, the 3,600 acres which it owned and which lies at the headwater of Elder Creek and adjoining streams feeding into the river, it provided for a complete undisturbed watershed of the Elder Creek. This represented a great step forward in the potential for scientific study of an undisturbed watershed.

Last April, papers were signed for the purchase of 710 acres immediately joining the original holding and included the watershed of Fox Creek which is the next drainage into the river below the Elder Creek. Near the junction of the creek with the river is the clearing of a pioneer farm and later youth camp, known as "Camp Adventure" and owned by five persons including Mr. Lige Coalman, a life-long worker in the Y.M.C.A. movement. Mr. Coalman had long dreamed of a great youth camp being permanently established and while a beginning had been made, it was never quite possible to find the financial support and the leadership for a permanent camp that were necessary.

Rather than see the property sold upon the open market and the timber cut, Mr. Coalman and the other members of the corporation voted to offer the land to the Conservancy at a substantially reduced price, providing the property would be retained and preserved by the Conservancy under rather restrictive limitations.

While there was much fine timber along the river and on the lower reach of the Fox Creek, there was one or two very severe drawbacks that had to be faced. First, the timber on about 400 acres of the total, representing the higher ground, was owned by a timber brokerage partnership and might be sold for lumbering at any time. This would seriously damage the value of the Fox Creek watershed, impose very great responsibilities upon the Conservancy, since as owners of the land it would be responsible for supervision and enforcement of the Forest Practice Act in the cutting and would become a very great fire threat for many years to come.

During the year, market values for timber in this region rose rapidly and it became obvious that if the timber could be acquired at a fair price it should be purchased.

Through the good services of a friend, Mr. A. W. Sweet an industrialist and ardent conservationist, arrangements were completed in April for the purchase of this timber and the entire Fox Creek Watershed came under the protection of the Conservancy.

The Nature Conservancy also secured an inholding of 160 acres at the summit of Black Oak Mountain, the central peak of the two watersheds. This is particularly important as a buffer zone and will discourage hunters from entering the preserve from across the mountain. W.S.B.

## DEER LICK SANCTUARY FIELD DAY

Close to six hundred people attended the Field Day and Chicken Bar-B-Q at the New York Deer Lick Nature Sanctuary in June. Nature study trips, demonstrations or talks on such subjects as bird banding and the early history of Deer Lick were enjoyed by members of the Western New York Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, the Audubon Society, garden clubs and their guests.

## MAINE CHAPTER RECEIVES COMMENDATION

The Nature Conservancy is indeed grateful for the commendation issued the Maine Chapter in June by the Garden Club Federation of Maine, presided over by L. Corinne Mann, it was therein resolved "that the Garden Club Federation of Maine commend the Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy for its project which will acquire twenty acres of unspoiled wild area near Bethel (the part of Wight Brook known as Step Falls) as a source of scientific knowledge and of recreation and spiritual refreshment."

## SYMPOSIUM ON COLLEGE NATURAL AREAS

Robert Allerton Park near Monticello, Illinois was the gathering place of 75 college scientists and administrators from 21 states. This June 1st meeting, the first of its kind, was for the purpose of exchanging ideas and developing new concepts in the "Preservation, Use and Management of College Natural Areas." The proceedings of this Symposium, which will include papers by the speakers Donald Lawrence, H. Lewis Batts, Jr., Ernest S. Hamilton, Walter M. Keith, Richard H. Goodwin, and Charles S. Kendeigh, and summaries by F. Raymond Fosberg and Francis Evans, should be available for distribution by September 1st.

The Nature Conservancy is indebted to Dr. Lewis Stannard, of the Illinois Natural History Survey, to the University of Illinois Foundations, and to the staff of the University of Illinois Robert Allerton Park for helping to make this first meeting a success. P.B.D.

"The American continent has, from the very first, been hospitable to humankind. Its glory has always been its spaciousness and solitude. But the good earth will remain good only if we make it so."
Quote from..."Plea for -- A Green Legacy"

## KIMBALL WOODS IN OHIO NOW GIFT TO POSTERITY

The Nature Conservancy is the recent recipient of a 57-acre tract of land in Madison, Lake County, Ohio, Kimball Woods. An interesting family history may be traced back to 1812 when the Kimball brothers, Lemuel and Abel purchased the property, most of which was farmed, except for the woodland which was not cleared. It is the wooded portion which Mr. and Mrs. Carl R. Kimball have deeded to the Conservancy. Administrative responsibility will rest with Kent State University, the second largest University in Ohio.

A doctoral program in the field of biological sciences had led Dr. George Betts, public affairs officer at the University to state that: "We envision long-range research studies in the natural sciences. Only a tract which is protected from the ravages of progress can allow for such work. Furthermore, only a tract which has been protected in the past can serve as a basis for the study of genuine nature. In addition to serving as a basic research tool, we hope to use this undisturbed bit of nature for field teaching of future generations of students...as our remnants of nature continue to disappear, it becomes more and more important to have preserves such as the Kimball Woods."

This gift was announced by Mrs. Hugh D. Pallister, Jr., of Willoughby, Vice-Chairman of the Ohio Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Mrs. Edward Taubert of Madison, a member of The Nature Conservancy' Northeast Ohio steering committee, has represented the organization in the setting aside of Kimball Woods as a living museum.

Mrs. Carl R. Kimball, Mr. Kimball and Mrs. Hugh D. Pallister, Jr., at the donor's home in Madison, Ohio, with the woods in the background. Photo Credit - Edward Taubert.

## THE WILLIAM GOULD VINAL NATURE RESERVATION

Photo Credit - Conrad Chapman

Named for the individual most persistent in his efforts to set aside a floating bog, known as Black Pond and the surrounding swamp land in eastern Massachusetts, the William Gould Vinal Nature Reservation was dedicated on June 2 of this year.

George C. Shattuck, M.D., a member of The Nature Conservancy's Board of Governors addressed those present.

Including in his remarks the history of the area's acquisition, and the many obstacles by which it was delayed, he was able to conclude that "The Black Pond Project has succeeded beyond expectation." At this time, it includes four tracts totaling about 55 acres.

The pond itself is nearly circular and has a diameter of about 100 yards. It is entirely surrounded by a quaking bog covered with growing vegetation of a northern type. Dr. Vinal maintains that the interlacing roots of the water willow form the basis of the quaking mat of vegetation. Growing in the pond is sphagnum, pitcher plants, sundew, sedges, cranberry, such heaths as Cassandra and Andromeda and cotton grass.

The funds for the initial acquisition were provided by The Nature Conservancy, additional loans, along with the money raised by Cap'n Bill Vinal and Mrs. Donald Bischoff have made Cap'n Bill's dream a reality.

The Nature Conservancy deeply regrets the passing away of Mr. Francis R. Cope, Jr., of Dimock, Pennsylvania. Woodbourne Forest and Wildlife Sanctuary was presented to the Conservancy in April 1956 by Mr. Cope, his wife, and his daughter, Theodora Cope Sumner. The Forest is the last remaining undisturbed portion of some 26,000 acres purchased in 1818 by Thomas P. Cope, I, of Philadelphia. Until his death Mr. Cope administered the property.

## THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

### "SOMEBODY OUGHT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT"

One well remembered incident from days on the Appalachian Trail comes frequently to mind because it illustrates a common attitude. A companion, leading at the time paused as he came to a small tree fallen across the trail. "Somebody ought to do something about this trail," he said as he stepped over the obstacle. It took me but a moment to remove the obstruction and catch up. The incident was not an isolated affair of that day.

In contrast, another fellow hiker seldom commented about conditions, yet hardly a mile was ever traversed by him without some constructive action being taken. Limbs on the ground were thrown aside, small branches growing over were broken off, or a bit of rubbish picked up and properly disposed of. He was and still is constituted as a doer. Not long ago he attended a meeting where a constructive action of The Nature Conservancy was discussed, and thereafter a substantial contribution came from him in the mail.

The Nature Conservancy is an action organization. How effective it may be is less determined by numbers than by the willingness of its members to take action on specific land preservation issues. Personal regrets that the natural values of a place are being destroyed forever, even lament to fellow conservationists, will produce only ulcers. Thinking, followed by action, is not only good personal therapy but also leads to saving beauty spots, wildlife refuges and natural resources.

If the Mayor advocates a new express highway through a park, write to him telling why it would be a mistake. If, on the other hand, he takes a position against the road, then be doubly sure you commend him for it. We must not forget that standing for what is right can be a very lonely place for a public official. Of course, joining with others in formation of a committee to protect the park takes more effort but is far more effective.

All over America natural areas are disappearing, lost forever. It is easy to blame the road builders, the politicians, and the developers of real estate projects. However, before we blame, we should make certain that we have done all that we could to prevent the loss. From our losses we must be aroused to evaluate what else is left and move at once to forestall further destruction. Time and again reports have come of proposed projects with the comment, "there is no immediate danger," and then within a short time a frantic call has come for emergency late action. On the brighter side are many instances where someone with energy and courage has seen the need, rallied the support of others, and saved an area for future generations.

This message is a salute to those who "do something about it."

Walter S. Boardman
Executive Director

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### WISCONSIN CHAPTER PLANS FOR ADDITIONAL AREAS

While this is only its second year in operation the Wisconsin Chapter of The Nature Conservancy has already made tremendous progress in the preservation of natural areas.

The chapter is anticipating the acquisition of the 5.6-acre Whitmire-Benedict prairie in Bristol and the 6.16-acre Oliver prairie, one-quarter mile west of Abraham's Woods in Albany (Green County).

Paul J. Olson, Madison, a state conservation commissioner, was recently re-elected president of the chapter, Jack Vallier, head of the science department at Washington junior high school, Milwaukee, was named vice-chairman. Also re-elected were Mrs. A. J. Barrett, Madison, treasurer, and Prof. Joseph J. Hickey of the University of Wisconsin, secretary.

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"You will find something far greater in the woods than you will find in books. Stones and trees will teach you that which you will never learn from masters." ---St. Bernard

Dysart Woods . . .

### A LEGEND OF MID-AMERICA

The preservation of Dysart Woods signifies not only the protection of a scenic area, but the establishment of a scientific laboratory for study in forest ecology, taxonomy, genetics, soils, and microclimatology. Located in Belmont County, Ohio, Dysart Woods is dominated by huge white oaks (3-4 feet in diameter) towering more than 120 feet above a mixed forest of beech and sugar maple. At the present time this understory appears to be obstructing the growth of a young white oak forest.

What is to become of the young oak in this area? If it is doomed to extinction, how did the older oaks gain their dominance over the same competitors? These are just a couple of the questions confronting scientists. And they can only be answered as long as Dysart Woods is left in its present virgin state.

Fortunately, The Nature Conservancy has obtained an option to purchase Dysart Woods and the surrounding 475-acre farm for $55,000. And already $17,000 has been donated for the preservation of this unique and ecologically significant area.

Dr. Richard H. Goodwin
Connecticut College
New London, Conn.

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## ST. HILARY'S WILDFLOWER GARDEN MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

On the serpentine ridge of the Tiburon Peninsula, just north of the Golden Gate, peculiar conditions of geological formation, moisture, and microclimate combined through the ages to create a rare association of plant species, several of which have reached a state of virtual and in certain cases total extinction elsewhere. In the two-acre plot sloping down from the historic old St. Hilary's Catholic Church, there are still blooming one or two wildflower species not known to exist anywhere else in the world.

About three years ago, the Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society, Inc. was formed to buy and preserve the Church building as a historic monument. For this purpose they raised the price of $9,500. Following this success, the Society was persuaded by several botanists to try to save the flower area adjacent from the threat of real estate development. Faced with the staggering figure of $45,000, the Society took up the challenge and in a short time raised $10,000.

This spring and summer it became necessary for the Society to seek help from some interested organization. The Nature Conservancy was approached, and has offered to make the Society a loan of $10,000 cash from the Matching and Loan Fund, without interest, for three years. On the strength of this offer of aid, the Society has been able to gain an extension of time on the current payment, and has taken fresh heart to engage all-out fund-raising activities. Thus a promise of financial aid if and when needed has served as powerful moral support, which it is hoped will insure the survival of an important part of our heritage of wild plants. D.G.K.

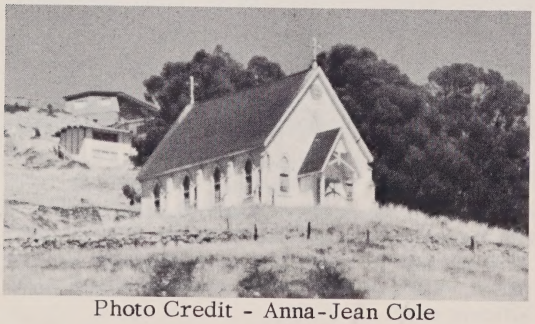

Photo Credit - Anna-Jean Cole

Photo Credit - Sam Yeaton

## CHARLES CHURCH WILDLIFE PRESERVE LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

With the assistance of The Nature Conservancy, twenty acres in Mill Neck, Long Island, will be preserved and administered by the Matinecock Neighborhood Association as a wildlife sanctuary. More than half of the acreage once belonged to the estate of Charles S. Church. The remainder is being contributed by Frederick E. Church and his wife who have long shared an intense interest in wildlife.

Until such time as the Matinecock Neighborhood Association acquires tax exempt status, The Nature Conservancy will cooperate by assuming the administrative tasks involved in establishing the area.

A position is available for a retired naturalist interested in helping with the protection of a 500-acre virgin forest in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania (a Nature Conservancy Preserve). While a cash salary is not available, the occupancy of an attractive small cottage with a lovely view overlooking the Woodbourne Forest is offered. Those interested in learning more about the position may get in touch with the Washington office of the Conservancy.